

#14/AMIST
C. Guen
60158-107
7/16/02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ponthriand ✓
Serial No.: 09/493,530 ✓
Filed: January 28, 2000 ✓
Group Art Unit: 1772 ✓
Examiner: S. Nolan ✓
Title: PLASTIC POWDER FILLED EPOXY PAINT FOR TUBING

FAX RECEIVED
JUL 9 2002
GROUP 1700
OFFICIALRESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2002. Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10-20 remain in this application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 8 and add new claims 13-20.

8. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A tube comprising:

an underlying metal tubing; and

an outer epoxy coating containing plastic particles mixed into an epoxy paint, wherein an intermediate substrate layer is placed between said metal tubing and said coating.

13. (NEW) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said substrate is electroplated zinc.

14. (NEW) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said substrate is zinc based alloy.